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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/016,174	10/30/2001	Edmund L. Wolak	P1292D1	1851
22849	7590	07/18/2002		
SCOTT W HEWETT 400 WEST THIRD STREET #223 SANTA ROSA, CA 95401			EXAMINER	LEUNG, QUYEN PHAN
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2828	
			DATE MAILED: 07/18/2002	

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/016,174	WOLAK ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Quyen P. Leung	2828

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 33-44 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 33-44 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____ 6) Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

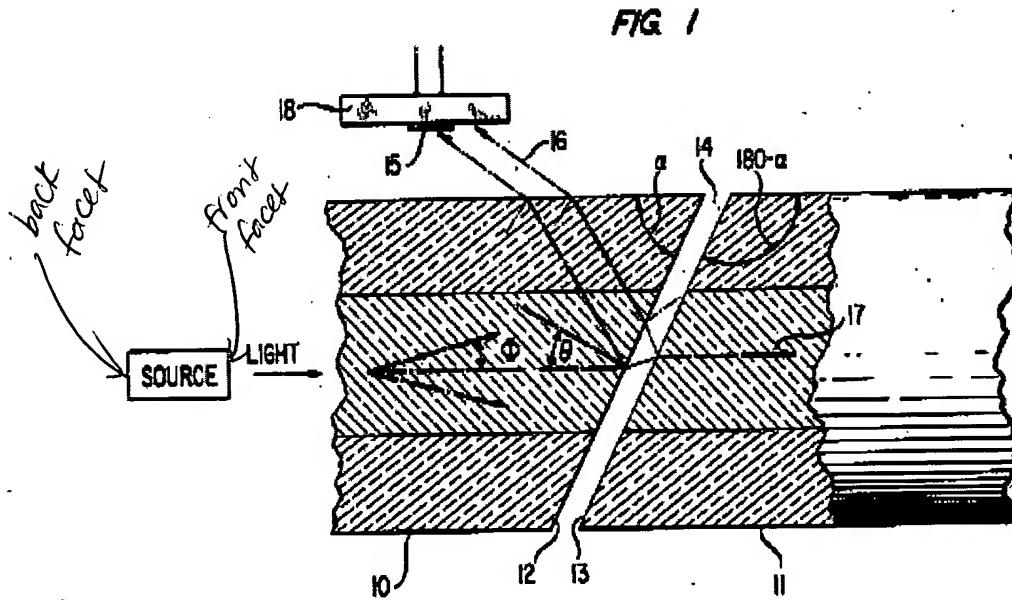
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 33-39 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Di Domenico, Jr et al (4,165,496). Di Domenico, Jr et al discloses the claimed invention. For example, Figure 1 illustrates a laser module comprising a laser diode (35) having a



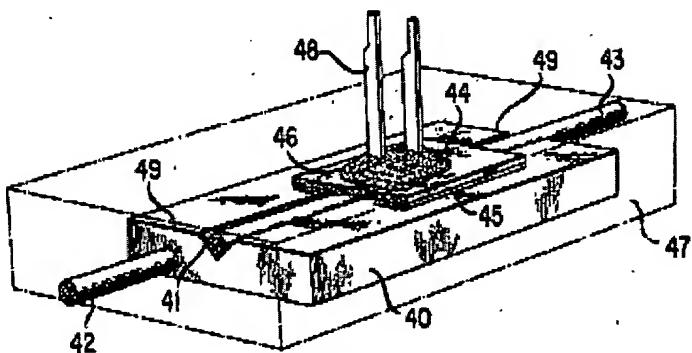
front facet, an optical fiber (11) having a fiber end (13) disposed proximate to the front facet to couple light emitted from the front facet to the optical fiber (11), the front facet and the fiber end (13) forming a coupling region there between and a monitor photo

diode (15) disposed to couple light from at least one of the fiber end (13) and the front facet.

Regarding the reflectance-increasing coating on the fiber end (13), note col. 3 lines 28-32.

Regarding the substrate to which the laser diode and the optical fiber are mechanically coupled, note figure 6, element 40 and col. 5 lines 30-58. Note further the

FIG. 6



submount (47) for mechanically coupling the substrate (40) to the laser diode and optical fiber.

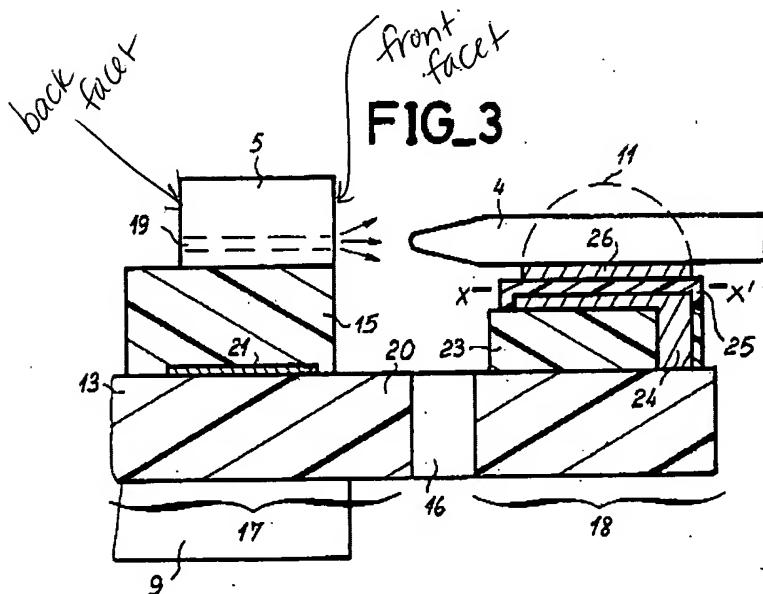
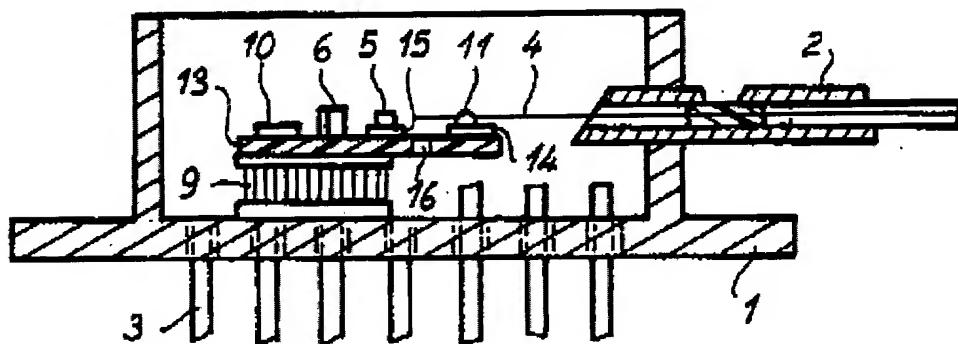
Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 42-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tournereau et al (4,807,956) in view of Harker (5,940,557). Tournereau et al discloses the claimed invention except for explicitly teaching a lens edge that is not perpendicular to the center axis of the optical fiber. Note figures 2 and 3 a laser diode source (5)

FIG_2



having a laser cavity between a front facet and back facet; an optical fiber (4) having lensed fiber input end disposed proximate to the front facet of the laser diode source (5)

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to receive a first light output from the front facet; and a laser monitor disposed proximate to the back facet of the laser diode source (5) to receive a second light output from the back facet, the second light output including amplified back-reflected light.

As shown in figures 1-5 and discussed in col. 4 lines 23-29, Harker teaches a

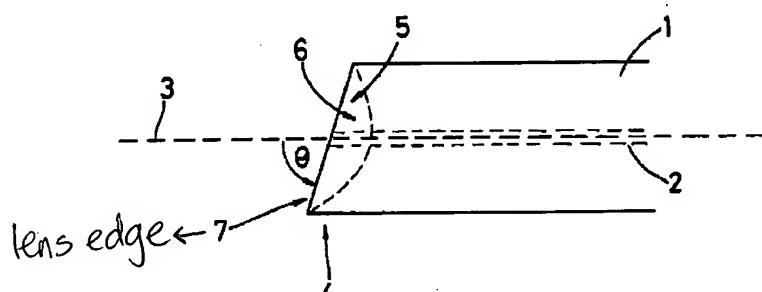


Fig. 1

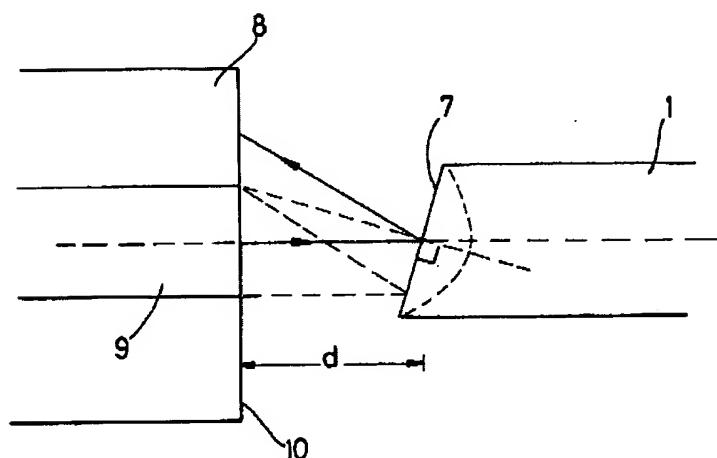


Fig. 2

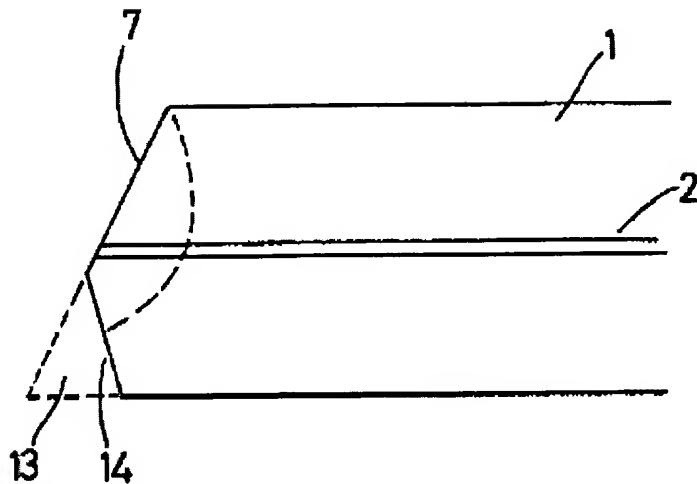


Fig. 5

lens edge that is not perpendicular to the center axis of the optical fiber, for the advantageous benefit of minimizing the disturbing of operation of the laser diode. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify Tournereau et al by employing a lens edge that is not perpendicular to the center axis of the optical fiber, as taught by Harker et al, for the advantageous benefit of minimizing the disturbing of operation of the laser diode.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Quyen P. Leung whose telephone number is (703) 308-0545. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30-5:00, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paul Ip can be reached on (703) 308-3098. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7724 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.



Quyen P. Leung
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2828

QPL
July 12, 2002